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U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/710,589
Response to Office Action of September 28, 20008

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims: in the application:

Claims 1-6 (canceled)

Claim 7 (currently amended): A micro-switching device comprising:

a base substrate;

a movable portion including an anchor part and an extending part, the anchor part being connected to the base substrate, the extending part extending from the anchor part and facing the base substrate, wherein the extending part comprises a body having an electrode carrying surface on a side opposite to the base substrate;

a stationary member connected to the base substrate;

a movable contact conductor provided on the electrode carrying surface of the extending part;

a first stationary contact electrode connected to the stationary member and including a first contacting part facing the movable contact conductor;

a second stationary contact electrode connected to the stationary member and including a second contacting part facing the movable contact conductor; and

a first driving electrode formed separately from the body on the electrode carrying surface of the extending part on the same electrode carrying surface of the extending part as the movable contact conductor;

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wherein the stationary member includes a plurality of stationary island parts each of which is connected to the base substrate and corresponds to a respective one of the first and second stationary contact electrodes, the stationary island parts being spaced away from one another.

Claim 8 (original): The micro-switching device according to claim 7, wherein the stationary member is spaced away from the movable portion.

Claim 9 (original): The micro-switching device according to claim 7, wherein the stationary member surrounds the movable portion.

Claim 10 (canceled)

Claim 11 (previously presented): The micro-switching device according to claim 7, further comprising a second driving electrode connected to the stationary member and including a section facing the first driving electrode.

Claim 12 (original): The micro-switching device according to claim 7, wherein the extending part is made of monocrystalline silicon.

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Claim 13 (original): The micro-switching device according to claim 7, wherein at least one of the first stationary contact electrode and the second stationary contact electrode has a thickness of no smaller than 5 μm .

Claim 14 (original): The micro-switching device according to claim 7, wherein the extending part has a thickness of no smaller than 5 μm .

Claims 15-16 (canceled)

Claim 17 (previously presented): The micro-switching device according to claim 7, further comprising a second driving electrode connected to the stationary member and including a section facing the first driving electrode, said section of the second driving electrode being spaced from the base substrate on a same side as the first driving electrode relative to the base substrate.

Claim 18 (new): The micro-switching device according to claim 17, wherein said section of the second driving electrode facing the first driving electrode is farther from the base substrate than an adjoining section of the second driving electrode that is not facing the first driving electrode.